



Transilvania
University
of Brasov

NEWSLETTER

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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EDITION OF *GRADUATES MEET COMPANIES – AFCO 2019*

Thursday, 9 May, Transilvania University of Braşov hosted the eighth edition of the event Graduates meet companies – AFCO 2019 (<http://afco.unitbv.ro>).



The event held at Aula Magna brought together students and faculty staff, as well as representatives of the local industries. The 270 graduate and undergraduate students enrolled deployed their posters across ten different sections, introducing the representatives of the companies as well as the jury to their work.

As with the past editions, the companies invited the participating students to discussions and pre-interviews aimed at developing collaboration.



As previously, AFCO's main partner was the local firm Mondly. Joining Mondly were other partners like BCR, Raiffeisen, Universal Alloy Corporation – UAC, Siemens, Miele, Kastamonu, BRD, Stabilus, Preh, HeidelbergCement Romania, Varta, Draxlmaier, Dexion, Adecco, Canam, Mazars, Fotonation, NBHX Rolem, Dedienne Roumanie, PSI-Control, and Schaeffler.

In the evening, the AFCO 2019 award ceremony took place at Aula Magna, where the winners in the ten sections won prizes. Five special AFCO 2019 awards were also given to the participants in the Summer School organized at Marabello – Italy (3-7 June 2019), within the framework of the European project H2020 DREAM, in which Transilvania University of Braşov is a partner.



The event concluded with an exceptional concert which included songs from the soundtracks of famous movies. The concert "The way we were" was coordinated by Andrei Tudor and performed by Pop Symphonic Orchestra and singers from the Faculty of Music at Transilvania University. Congratulations and good luck are in order to all the participants and thanks are due to all the partners!



On behalf of the AFCO 2019 Organizing Committee,
Prof. Dr. Eng. Daniel MUNTEANU – Vice-rector

FIRST PLACE FOR STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF FOOD AND TOURISM IN THE *FUTURE TOURISM CONFERENCE – TURIZMIJADA 2019* INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

A student team representing our Faculty of Food and Tourism took part in the Annual 12th International Congress and Sports Games of the Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management-Turizmijada held in Budva, Montenegro, between 4 and 8 May.



"Turizmijada" is an international convention of students who come together in order to share ideas, socialize and cooperate through a range of workshops, lectures, case studies, and sports competitions—all intended to foster their personal and educational development.

Thirty undergraduate students in Engineering and Management in Tourism Industry and Engineering and Management in Food Service and Agri-Tourism supervised by Lecturer Dr Diana Foriș and Assist. Prof. Dr Ioana Sonia Comănescu signed up for the activities organized under the framework of this year's congress.

The debate topics were "Digital Marketing" and "New Trends in Catering". The extremely interesting lectures on these topics were given by international experts from Germany, Great Britain, Croatia, etc.



"The Hotel of Tomorrow" was the topic of the competition Tourism Case Study Challenge, and the jury

included a panel of international experts in the field. The students were tasked with contributing innovative ideas on the ways to integrate the latest trends in technology, communication and environment, design, human resources in order to promote the sustainable development of the hospitality industry.



The student team from the Faculty of Food and Tourism, consisting of Teodora-Maria Pănoiu, Natalia Rus (Crihălmean), Dragoș-George Silvaș, under the supervision of Dr Diana Foris, delivered the paper "The Hotel of Tomorrow – Alpin Resort Hotel & Spa Study Case" and won the first prize.



Overall, this was an interesting experience that is definitely worth repeating.

Lecturer Dr Diana FORIS
Faculty of Food and Tourism

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TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY REPRESENTED ROMANIA AT THE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL INDUSTRIES FAIR IN SHENZHEN, CHINA

Between 16 and 20 May, Shenzhen hosted the 15th International Cultural Industries Fair. For the second year running, Transilvania University of Braşov responded to the invitation of the Embassy of Romania in China to represent Romania in this fair, thus joining exhibitors from 40+ different countries.



Five researchers from Transilvania University of Braşov prepared a complex program to promote Romania, combining Romanian customs with modernity through innovative solutions for cultural and tourist promotion. During the five days of the exhibition, the Chinese and international audience had the opportunity to explore the fortified churches in Romania through a VR app, to admire the art of the Romanian craft evidenced in the exhibits illustrating sowing, traditional paintings and folk costumes, and discover the natural beauty of Romania through the photo exhibit of artists from Braşov. The Transilvania University team prepared an interactive experience for the visitors: a VR app for archery in the Middle Ages.



The Romanian Embassy under his Excellency Basil Constantinescu, Romania's Ambassador in the People's Republic of China, together with the team from Braşov were the hosts of two events dedicated to the tourist promotion of Romania.



The special guest of this event was maestro Nicolae Voiculeţ, holder of the title of ambassador of Romanian tourism and who was taking part in an event in Shanghai dedicated to the promotion of bio products (BioFach). Mr Voiculeţ gladly accepted the Embassy's proposal to share with the people of Shenzhen a part of the artistic sensitivity and the virtuosity of Romanian music. In one of the events for the tourist promotion of Romania, the University and Embassy teams were joined by two Romanian entrepreneurs living in Shenzhen who brought their own Romanian products. They own a small business with traditional Romanian food and products, and offer those present a Romanian culinary evening.

Ruxandra CIOACĂ, Attaché
Romania's Embassy in China
Lecturer Dr Victor BRICIU
Office of Marketing & Image,
Transilvania University of Brasov

CELEBRATION OF EUROPEAN VALUES IN THE CAPITAL OF MONGOLIA

On 26 May, Romania's Embassy in China celebrated—together with the other countries in the EU—Europe Day in an event which took place on the site of Sukhbaatar market located in the center of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Romania's booth was decorated in a traditional style, introducing its visitors to the Romanian folk costumes, traditional Romanian cuisine, and the unique Horezu pottery. The Mongolian deputy minister of foreign affairs and the mayor of Ulaanbaatar visited all the booths of the member states, together with the leader of the European Union delegation and the ambassador of Romania, which currently holds the presidency.

To the traditional atmosphere the team from Transilvania University of Braşov added a touch of modernism by using a VR app which helped illustrate the beauty of the Romanian landscapes through the photo exhibit „Lumina României” (“The Light of Romania”) created by Teofil Mihăilescu. Students from our Faculty of Music provided the artistic relief, making Sukhbaatar market resonate to the sound of Romanian music.



On 27 May, another event organized by Romania's Embassy and supported by representatives of Transilvania University of Braşov was dedicated to the meeting with Mongolian graduate students of Romanian universities, as well as representatives of diaspora in Ulaanbaatar. The attachment to Romanian values and customs was obvious through the impressive variety of folk songs they performed accompanied by the five students from Transilvania University.

Held on a historic, yet rather atypical place for such events, the Romanian musical soiree hosted by the Romanian mission leader on 28th of May was perceived by the European ambassadors and the local authorities present as unique in the cultural and diplomatic landscape of Mongolia's capital. The event took place in two traditional yurts located in the center of the capital aimed at commemorating the first Mongolian minister of foreign affairs after the independence of Mongolia, in 1911.



These events in the series “Traditions of European Romania” launched by the Embassy to mark the Council's Presidency complemented our country's contribution to the celebration of 30 years of relations between the EU and Mongolia, paving the way for a series of events that will celebrate 70 years of Romanian-Mongolian relations next year.

This year's celebration involved students at Transilvania University, who took active part in its organization and performed in all its artistic moments.

Ruxandra CIOACĂ, Attaché
Romania's Embassy in China
Lecturer Dr Victor BRICIU
Office of Marketing &Image,
Transilvania University of Brasov

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REMARKABLE RESULTS OF OUR MECHATRONICS STUDENTS IN THE CONTESTS CELEBRATING THE “DAYS OF EDUCATION IN MECHATRONICS – CLUJ-NAPOCA 2019”

Between 21 and 24 May, the Technical University in Cluj-Napoca, the Faculty of Automotive, Mechatronics and Mechanical Engineering, the Department of Mechatronics and Machine Dynamics organized the 10th edition of “Days of Education in Mechatronics”.

Participants in this important event were universities in Romania that ensure excellent training in mechatronics—Transilvania University of Braşov, the University Politehnica of Bucharest, the Technical University in Cluj-Napoca, University of Craiova, “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iaşi, Politehnica University of Timișoara, “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, the University “Ștefan cel Mare” of Suceava—and representatives of the Technical University of Moldova.



The event included the following competitions: the National Mechatronics Olympiad – Mechatronic Systems and Mobile Robots sections; the National Contest for Flying Mechatronic Systems without Pilot; the National Students Scientific Communications Session, and the National Contest for Achievements in Mechatronics.

Transilvania University of Braşov was represented by students and teachers in the Mechatronics Bachelor study program within the Faculty of Product Design and Environment.

For the seventh time in the past nine years, our students in mechatronics from Braşov won the first place in the Mechatronic Systems section of a very difficult and complex competition – the National

Mechatronics Olympiad. This year’s team consisted of students Costin-Tudor Gâdei, Dorinel Ionuț Bobîrnac, Alin-Mihai Moja, Mirela-Ioana Obadă, and Robert Păcuraru coordinated by Dr Marius Cristian Luculescu, Dr Luciana Cristea, and Dr Sorin Zamfira.



In the National Contest for Flying Mechatronic Systems without Pilot – Indoors section, our students Simion Lucian Barna, Cătălin Mihai Simion, Tamás Bonczidai, and Florin Ionuț Galațanu came in second. Cristian Ladariu, our representative in the National Students Scientific Communications Session also won the second prize. Last but not least, our students Dumitru Damiean, Alexandra Mihaela Purcaru, and Ioan Alexandru Dănilă won honorable mentions and special prizes in the National Contest for Achievements in Mechatronics.

Due to the exceptional results obtained in the last years, the team from Transilvania University of Braşov will represent Romania in the *Worldskills International Competition – Kazan 2019* taking place between 22-27 August 2019. Worldskills International 2019 is Romania’s first participation in the Mechatronics section within this competition.

Prof. Dr eng. Luciana CRISTEA
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

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PRIZES WON IN THE NATIONAL MECHANISMS OLYMPIAD

On 9 and 10 May, the Romanian Association for Mechanisms and Machines Science ARoTMM (affiliated to the International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science) organized the first edition of the National Mechanisms Olympiad at Iași. Participants in the Olympiad were 20+ students from six universities, who competed individually and in teams.



Transilvania University of Braşov was represented by five students from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Product Design and Environment.



They were trained by seven faculty staff, specialists in Mechanisms within the Department for Product Design, Mechatronics and Environment: Dr Ion Vişa, Dr Codruţa Jaliu, Dr Ionel Stareţu, Dr Mircea Neagoe, Dr Daniela Ciobanu, Dr Radu Săulescu, and Dr Nadia Creţescu.



The participating students obtained remarkable results: Second Prize in the individual section won by Andrei Cristian David (2nd year Automotive engineering), Honourable Mention in the individual section won by Kristian Atzberger (2nd year Automotive engineering), and Second Prize in the team section won by Andrei Cristian David (2nd year Automotive engineering), Kristian Atzberger (2nd year Automotive engineering), and Lenard Bakos (3rd year Engineering of Renewable Energy Systems).

Lecturer Dr Eng. Nadia CREȚESCU
Prof. Dr Eng. Mircea NEAGOE
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

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PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS AND PAPERS PRESENTATIONS AT THE 15TH WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS 2019

Between 9 and 12 May, the 15th Warsaw International Medical Congress for Young Scientists – WIMS 2019 took place in Warsaw, Poland.

Transilvania University of Braşov was represented by a group of ten medical students specializing in Medicine and Clinical Laboratory. Six scientific papers were presented on topics ranging from anatomy-radiology, biochemistry and laboratory techniques, public health, and obstetrics-gynaecology. The quality of the papers presented contributed to the visibility of Transilvania University of Braşov.



The students also took part in interactive workshops organized by students and collaborators of the Medical University of Warsaw on topics like Basic abdominal ultrasound; Basic course of echocardiography; Cardiac intensive care & ALS; Clinical nutrition – a way to support treatment; Culinary medicine workshop – health on the plate; Head and neck ultrasound; Laparoscopic and surgical stitching workshop in cooperation with Ethcon by Johnson&Johnson; Medicine for your skin – creams and ointments; Movement analysis in rehabilitation, sports and research.



Participating in WIMS 2019 was an opportunity to disseminate the research at the Faculty of Medicine on topics of interest for the field of the fundamental, clinical, and surgical disciplines (<http://wimc.wum.edu.pl/programme/abstract-book/>).



New contacts with teachers and students from the organizing institution and from the participant institutions, respectively, were made during the congress, contributing successfully to the promotion of our university's image internationally.

This experience will motivate the students to continue their future research activities and participate with papers in other national and international events.



Assist. Prof. Dr Mihaela BADEA
Faculty of Medicine

OUTGOING MEDICAL STUDENTS TAKING PART IN INTERNATIONAL TRAINING MOBILITY IN WARSAW

Between 7 and 14 May, a group of five students from the Faculty of Medicine, specializing in Clinical Laboratory and Medicine, participated in an international training mobility at Medical University of Warsaw, Poland.



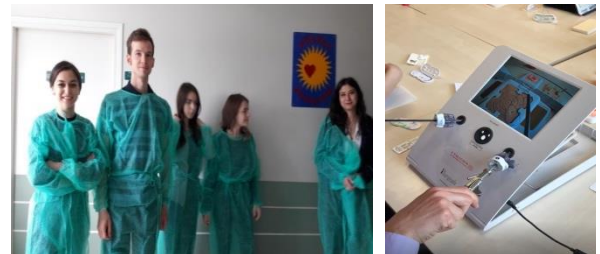
The students took part in trainings and internships in the field of the fundamental/ prophylactic/ clinical / surgical disciplines, under the supervision of Dr Anna Baranczyk-Kuzma.



The topics of this mobility included issues concerning anaesthesia and intensive care, clinical laboratory and paediatric immunology, gastroenterology and paediatric nutrition, liver surgery and transplant.



The discussions during this mobility related to the possibility of expanding the applicability of Erasmus+ to the General Nursing and Clinical Laboratory (UTBv) study programs, and Nursing (University of Warsaw), respectively. The aims will be the involvement of the participating students in future Erasmus / CEEPUS visits to Medical University of Warsaw or the possibility of summer internships in hospitals in Warsaw.



Assist. Prof. Dr Mihaela BADEA
Faculty of Medicine

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OUTGOING MOBILITY AT THE LAW SCHOOL WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF MINHO AT BRAGA, PORTUGAL

Between 19 and 26 May, ten 1st and 2nd year law students from our university took part in a mobility scheme at the Law School within the University of Minho situated in Braga, Portugal.



The participant students—Anca Mihaela Badea, Elena-Cristina Bărbuceanu, Adelina-Daniela Alexandru, Ana Alexei, Constantin-Marius Anton, Denisa-Cătălina Catană, Andrei Dima, Tudor Frumuzachi, Mircea Guran and Alexandra-Elena Hulban—were accompanied in their trip by Dr Roxana Matefi and Dr Oana Şaramet, faculty staff.

The activities taking place within the frame of this mobility included attending the course “Legal Aspects of Investments in Brazil” led by prof. Francisco Bianco, and taking active part in the debates sparked by this topic; showcasing the educational offer of the local Law School by prof. Cristina Dias, Vice-Dean, followed by our introduction of the educational offer available at the Faculty of Law within Transilvania University of Brasov; introducing the local Research Centre for in Justice and Governance (Jus-Gov) by Prof. Patrícia Jerónimo, director, who outlined the projects, actions and outcomes of work within the centre; outlining

aspects of student life at Minho by Jordana Laís, member of Law students association: the presentation touched upon topics such as the academic curriculum, teaching and learning methods, and extracurricular activities available to the students.

Equally relevant was the introduction to the European Law Students’ Association - ELSA/UMINHO, that highlighted the programs and actions implemented for the benefit of law students, among which student competitions, mock trials and moot courts, debates, mobility schemes for study or internships, extracurricular activities, including social life and networking opportunities.



This was also an opportunity to disseminate information about similar actions designed and implemented by the law student association at our university.

Lecturer Dr Oana ŞARAMET
Faculty of Law

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LAW STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL MOCK TRIAL CONTEST IN TÂRGOVIȘTE

On 9 May, 2nd and 3rd year students at the Faculty of Law Ștefana Andronachi, Cristina Călinescu, Aliz Kosztandi, Andreea Larisa Resmeriță, Octavian Teletin, Elena Ungureanu, Andra Vînătoru, coordinated by Dr Cristinel Costel Ghigheci and Dr Oana Șaramet participated in the second edition of the National mock Trial Contest. The contest was organized by the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences of Valahia University at Târgoviște, in collaboration with the Faculty of Law within Transilvania University of Brașov.



Each competing team consisted of six students who presented their own case, with the students acting as judge, prosecutor, court reporter, attorneys for the parties, and the case focusing on Penal Law and Procedural Law.

During the two stages which typically take place in such a mock trial contest our students capitalized on the solid legal knowledge they had acquired, as well as on the skills and abilities developed during their studies in order to elaborate the procedural documents and to build pertinent and conclusive legal arguments. The students from our Faculty of Law won two prizes: Andreea Larisa Resmeriță for best prosecutor and Octavian Teletin for best attorney.

Lecturer Dr Oana ȘARAMET
Faculty of Law

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PR CULTURAL & CREATIVE DESTINATIONS – A JOINT PROJECT OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV AND UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN

Between 4 and 12 May, fifteen BA students and one MA student from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication benefitted from international temporary mobilities at the University of the Aegean, School of Business, Chios, Greece.



The student group was accompanied by Dr Ana-Maria Bolborici and Dr Claudiu Coman. The program included visits and activities within the partner university, as well as with local business and socio-cultural partners on the islands of Chios and Lesbos, where the university's teaching and research activities of the university are conducted.



PR Cultural & Creative Destinations (PRCCD 2019) was set up as an internship program built on a series of projects involving the two partner universities, which have been collaborating within the Erasmus+ program for a few years now.

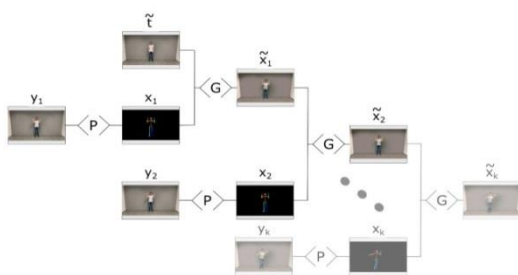


The program was targeted at BA students specializing in Communication and Public Relations, as well as at MA students specializing in the Management of Image Campaigns. Its purpose was to facilitate the acquisition and development of practical communication skills, image and branding campaigns, and team work. To this end, the students supervised by the two academics will draw up a case study based on their Greek experience.

Lecturer Dr Ana-Maria BOLBORICI
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

BEST PAPER AWARD AT ICDD 2019

Between 16 and 18 May, the Research Centre in Informatics and Information Technology from *Lucian Blaga* University of Sibiu organized the *International Conference on Applied Informatics, Imagination, Creativity, Design, Development (ICDD)*. Ever since its first edition, the conference has facilitated the exchange of ideas between students and young researchers in the IT field and several adjacent fields, such as numerical analysis, computational algebra, bioinformatics, etc.



The international scientific board ensures fair selection and review of proceedings. This year's edition was attended by students from Germany, Italy, Serbia, Bulgaria, Russia, the USA, and Romania.

Andrei-Timotei Ardelean, 2nd year student in Applied Informatics at Transilvania University of Brasov, presented a paper on Motion Transfer using Deep Learning, which earned the Best Paper Award.

Motion Transfer refers to the transfer of observed actions, motion, and dynamics of a particular subject

unto another entity. Its aim is to replicate and adjust the behaviour to the target object which could have different characteristics. This makes the task challenging, as the source movement must be represented in such a way that it can be adapted and reproduced on the target. Nowadays, this topic plays an important role in animations found in cartoons or video games. In this paper the issue is addressed by looking for an automated way of transferring the movement of a human body to another by learning the dynamics of the target body using deep neural networks.

Timotei Ardelean's paper is underpinned by complex models of artificial neural networks, more precisely in generative adversarial networks.

While the basics of *machine learning* are acquired at the undergraduate level, the knowledge required to understand and augment models of motion transfer are far beyond it, to the doctoral level, which makes the student's paper all the more commendable.

The full paper proves remarkable field knowledge as well as its author's ability to implement and provide original input. The detailed description of the techniques employed was indeed a plus, and so was the capacity to cover yet unexplored field areas.

Congratulations to the author are in order for this outstanding achievement which—it is hoped—will inspire more students to follow Timotei's example.



Assist. Prof. Dr Lucian Mircea SASU
Department of Mathematics and Informatics

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THE 2019 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE *INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH. CHALLENGES, MEASURES AND SOLUTIONS*

On the 31 May, the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration in partnership with the Institute for Economic Prognosis from the National Institute of Economic Research within the Romanian Academy organized a new edition of the International Conference - Challenges, Measures and Solutions" (ISEG) 2019.

The conference program included plenary lectures and ten panel sessions, among which Macroeconomic and quantitative studies, Financial and accounting management, Management, Finances, Marketing, Digital and IT economy, etc. The contributors were prominent specialists from Romania and abroad.



The interest of the participants in the proposed topics materialized in vivid debates, which, along with the scientific quality of the presentations, are reasons enough to look forward to the next edition of the conference.



Assist. Prof. Dr Ioana CHIȚU
Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration

THE SEVENTEENTH EDITION OF THE CONFERENCE ON BRITISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES *EXPLORING LANGUAGE VARIATION, DIVERSITY AND CHANGE*

Between 10 and 11 May, the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics at the Faculty of Letters of our university organized the 17th edition of the Conference on British and American Studies.

Under the heading *Exploring Language Variation, Diversity and Change*, the conference brought together academics from our university, from other Romanian universities (Bucharest, Sibiu, Craiova) and from abroad (Japan, Poland, Great Britain, Norway, Ukraine, Russia, Taiwan and the United Arab Emirates), who presented the latest results of their research in various fields of linguistics.



The plenary speaker was Professor Lucyna Harmon, from the Department of Translation Theory at the University of Rzeszów, Poland. Her presentation, *National Identity and Translation*, focused on the concept of national identity from the perspective of translation studies, underlining the role played by language in building a nation. The translated texts, such as novels, TV programs, etc., allow the transfer, into the target culture, of ideas

related to their author's national identity or the identity of the community to which he/she belongs.



In their presentations, this year's participants approached various areas of linguistics, such as syntax, pragmatics and discourse analysis, translation studies and lexicography. Most of the presentations dealt with teaching and learning English, from the perspective of tele-collaboration activities, of the features of the texts produced by learners of English as a foreign language, or of the resources meant to facilitate the EL learning process. The conference afforded its participants the possibility to connect with colleagues from other universities and to initiate future collaborations.

Lecturer Dr Raluca SINU
Faculty of Letters

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THE INTERNATIONAL WEEK: CREDIT MOBILITY – CROSSING BORDERS, JOINING CULTURES

Between 13 and 17 May, the Erasmus+ Office within Transilvania University of Brasov organized the second edition of the event *entitled International Week – Credit Mobility: Crossing Borders, Joining Cultures*.

The event brought together 37 invitees from 20 countries and 24 universities, all of whom have been involved in the process of organizing mobilities, implementing, improving, and facilitating the process. The title of the event subsumes the impressive diversity of the participants coming from Bulgaria, Serbia, Ukraine, Austria, Finland, France, Lithuania, Portugal, Spain, Great Britain, Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Russia, China, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

Throughout the entire week, the workshops were opportunities to identify situations particular to the organization of mobilities within the KA107 project, best practice examples, sharing experiences of program beneficiaries. The program of the event included local visits and cultural experiences which highlighted the wealth of national traditions and customs, and strengthened as well as furthered the current partnership.

The participants' involvement, the organizers' enthusiasm, and the positive feedback certainly encourage further such events.



Assist. Prof. Dr Laura Teodora DAVID
Incoming Mobilities Division

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OUTSTANDING AWARDS FOR THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Between 9-13 May 2019, the "Steel Team" consisting of 4th year students in mechanical engineering Asztalos Zsolt, Dandu Ionel, Gutas Vladuț-Petru and Munteanu Gabriel represented our faculty in the regionals of the European BEST Engineering Competition – EBEC, organized annually by BEST (Board of European Students of Technology).



The contest was hosted by Politehnica University of Bucharest and the competing teams came from prestigious universities from Cluj-Napoca, Bucharest, Iași, Brașov, as well as from the Republic of Moldova.



The competition included two challenges: the *Machine gun* which consisted in designing a machine that could shoot down obstacles, and *Treasure hunt*, in which the participating teams implemented a machine that could pick up objects off a box on the floor. Our University's Steel Team came in third for each challenge.



Alin DANDU – student, BEST Brașov member
Assist. Prof. Dr Eng. Mariana Domnica STANCIU
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

EVENTS AT THE FACULTY OF SILVICULTURE AND FOREST ENGINEERING

Between 1 and 6 May, a group of 18 Erasmus Mundus students coming from ten countries participated in a study trip organized by the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering in Braşov – partner within the MSc European Forestry project. Over the six days, the MA students had the chance to familiarize themselves with the Romanian forest management. The project is financed through Erasmus+, and the coordinator on behalf of our University is Dr Alexandru Lucian Curtu.



On 8 May, a second event took place at Aula Magna, where students from the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering met with representatives of Romsilva – the Romanian Forest Management Company.



The event was opened by Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of Transilvania University of Brasov, who applauded the initiative of Romsilva to meet with prospective forestry engineers and to introduce their work offer. Gheorghe Mihăilescu, General Manager of Romsilva and faculty alumnus, presented the opportunities that Romsilva offers to young graduates. The event was also attended by faculty professors, and by representatives of forestry organizations and national parks managed by Romsilva.

Prof. Dr Eng. Alexandru Lucian CURTU,
Dean of the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering

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1ST YEAR STUDENTS VISIT THE FOREST MANAGEMENT COMPANY IN MARAMUREȘ

Between 22 and 25 May 95 first-year students from the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering included in ROSE-MARISA program, went on a study visit to the Forest Management Company in Maramureș.



The participants were students who specialize in Silviculture and in Geodetic Engineering. They were accompanied by Dr Alexandru Lucian Curtu, Dean of the Faculty, Dr Iosif Vorovencii, grant director, Dr Victor Adrian Indreica, team member, Dr Elena Cocoradă, psychologist, and Laura Elena Năstasă, psychologist. On site, they met with eng. Indrei Dumitrea, Manager of the Forest Management Company in Maramureș, Andreica Iacob, Technical Manager, and Dr Marcian Birdă, Forestry Office Director. The purpose of the visit was to get students acquainted with several activities specific of forestry and land management.



On the first day, the students took a trip to the forest railway of Vaser Valley. They were introduced

to the local forest management company and were presented aspects connected to the certification of the national forest heritage. Further on, they visited several green houses in the region and participated in tree sowing activities. On their way, the students visited *Miraj* Military Cemetery and Saint Elisabeth's Chapel.



On the second day, students visited *Rodnei Mountains National Park*, and took a chairlift ride from Borșa Complex to Runcu Știolului. Here, the park staff presented details on the Romanian protected areas and on *Rodnei Mountains National Park*, and then the students walked all the way to Cascada Cailor. The final point of the visit was Pasul Prislop, where the visitors were introduced to the use of GNSS global positioning systems and to the specifics of forest cadastre. On their way back to Brașov, the students visited Bârsana Monastery located in the Iza Valley.

The ROSE-MARISA project team extends their thanks to the staff from Maramureș Forest Management Company whose efforts made this visit an educational exploratory trip.

Prof. Dr Eng. Alexandru Lucian CURTU,
Dean of the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering
Prof. Dr Eng. Iosif VOROVENCII, grant director

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THE FAMILIAR CITY – A CHILDREN’S VIEW OF THE URBAN CHANGES IN CENTRAL AREAS

On the 18 May, the Museum of Urban Civilization played host to the opening of a unique exhibition, authored by 5th and 6th graders from Secondary School no 8 in Braşov under the supervision of their Romanian language teacher, Crina Pădurariu. Viewed by 1700+ visitors, this exhibition included in *A Night at the Museum* series, is a result of the project LADEC (Laboratory of the Anthropology of Contemporary Issues) coordinated by Lumière Lyon 2 University in partnership with the Faculty of Sociology and Communication within Transilvania University of Brasov.



The young students were invited to carefully look at old photos of Braşov (photos collected within the *Memorable City* project), and, assisted by their families, to identify the places they saw in the present-day urban landscape and express their feelings.



As stated by their teacher, “the 5th and 6th graders had a chance to experience hands-on the Familiar City project. On their way to school, they observed more closely the places and the buildings and then used the old photos trying to recognize the old features that have carried over into the present times. To them, this has been an attention focusing exercise, and for their families, a pleasant time travel”.



Anthropology Professor Bianca Botea from Lumière Lyon 2 University added: “The central area of the town is the main focus in our project, given its continual changes and its status of social hub. The result is a hybrid space bearing the hallmark of post-communist cities, illustrating the difficulties in planning and inhabiting it by the locals and even by its tourists”.

The commitment to this project that the children guided by teacher Crina Pădurariu showed, their enthusiasm and ease in presenting their projects is proof positive that there is a pool of good students that could in the future join our faculty and enroll in our study programs.

Although the LADEC project is officially over, the collaboration between the two universities is certain to go on by means of the Familiar City project, within the framework of Erasmus+.

Lecturer Dr Florin NECHITA
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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TWO LANDMARK VISITS AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

On the 24 May, 41 medical students participated in a training mobility at Synevo Central Lab Romania (in Chiajna, Ilfov). The mobility was supported by Transilvania University of Brasov.



Synevo covers around 2000 types of medical tests in all domains of clinical diagnosis. By the end of 2017, Synevo Romania administered a national network of 17 labs and 105 centres of collecting biological samples, with a total of 15 million tests performed.



Specialists in bio-chemistry, toxicology, immunology, microbiology, genetics and haematology shared information on the testing conditions and equipment, which the students added to the theoretical input acquired in school. The meetings that were held on this occasion identified further collaboration paths,

particularly since the Clinical Lab study programme is currently the only one of its kind in Romania.

On 28 May, Novaintermed Company delivered a presentation on medical equipment, attended by students from Medicine and Clinical Lab, as well as by their professors.



The company representatives introduced all the types of microscopes, from the simple, optical one to the electronic one. During the workshop, three wireless microscopes were presented, and students had a chance to visualize images from each microscope on their tablet PC, phone or laptop. Several types of ultrasound machines and probes have also been introduced, along with their addressability and default software. Demonstrations have been made on a portable Alpinion i7 ultrasound machine with two probes (convex and linear).

Assist. Prof. Dr Mihaela BADEA
Faculty of Medicine

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FLORIN BUTA'S EXHIBITION AN THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

Between 10 and 30 May the university's Multicultural Centre played host to an exhibition by Florin Buta, a local artist with multiple individual and group exhibitions in Belgium and Romania under his belt.



In light of his painting background, the choice of Buta's materials might seem surprising. With him, the creative process begins with found objects that already have a past. This is challenge that, says Mirela Ivanciu, the curator of the exhibition, "the artist seems to deliberately and willingly take on".

The visitors' imagination is fuelled both by the objects' past but also by their current state. The fragments conjure up a "the whole of the missing past". The exhibition itself is a kind of map; the installations "are based on a dialogue between objects located at variable distances".



Florin Buta creates new possible worlds; the viewer is presented with an open window and with the invitation to create something out of nothing, as if thorough divine intervention. Mirela Ivanciu noted the "sense of loneliness" exuding a nostalgia which blurs the contours of the objects displayed.



Lacking the definite shapes and purposes, the objects are located in a kind of neverland; their temporariness harks back to the transitoriness of the journey that we call life.

Oxana ROȘCA
Student, Faculty of Letters

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A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

On 15 May students at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication had the opportunity to meet with Paul Bulencea, an ace in facilitating experiences.



Paul Bulencea is a graduate of the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, where he specialized in Communication and PR. He went on to enroll in a master's program at Salzburg (Austria). His keen interest for experience facilitation inspired his book *Gamification in Tourism: Designing Memorable Experiences* and his promotion of transformational experience-based economy.

During a Marketing class, Paul made an overview of the evolution of economic tactics, from the tribe and agricultural stage to the industry and services, and progressing towards the experience stage envisaged as the main component of the 2020 economic strategy. To illustrate with a practical example, Paul resorted to role-play and imagination, recreating, with the help of the students present, the situation of two celebrities who experience their respective fans' display of appreciation.

Paul's charisma and out-of-the-box thinking, as well as the atmosphere he managed to create in the

classroom were considered an experience in itself by all those present.



Concluding his talk, Paul answered some of the students' queries relative to the economic strategies and shared his view of the world: "The Universe is not made of atoms, it is made of story tales".



Cristina-Nicoleta IOANA, Student,
Faculty of Sociology and Communications

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"TRAIAN LALESCU" NATIONAL MATHEMATICS CONTEST FOR STUDENTS

Between 9 and 11 May, "Traian Lalescu" National Mathematics Contest for Student took place. This year's edition was organized by the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca.



The contest brought together first and second year students from the universities in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Timișoara, Brașov, Constanța and

Craiova. The 107 student participants competed in five sections, depending on their study program. The contest jury included 40 teachers.

Our university was successfully represented by Bogdan Anghelina, first year student, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, the study program Mathematics-Computer Science, who won a Mention in Section A (mathematics); Gheorghită Marian Șolcă, first year student, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, the program Mathematics-Computer Science, who competed in Section A; Radu Bejinariu, first year student, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, the program Road Vehicles, who won a Mention in Section C (mechanics).

The team from Brașov was coordinated by Dr Gabriel Stan from the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science.

Lecturer Dr Gabriel STAN, vice-dean
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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THE READINGS OF FREEDOM — NORA IUGA AND NICHITA DANILOV



On the 30th and 31st of May, Brasov hosted the 14th edition of the Contemporary Romanian Literature Colloquium, an event that reached its XVth edition. The conference was dedicated to Nora Iuga's writings—prose and translations—as well as to Nichita Danilov's poetry and prose.

In the spirit of the scheme inaugurated years ago by Professor Andrei Bodi, the first day kicked off with the presentations and confessions of the authors themselves, continuing along the academic tradition of the colloquium with the works of the students. The two authors felt—by their own admission—overwhelmed and honoured by the interest and creativity with which their prose and / or poetry volumes and translations were read and analysed.

The second day was devoted to paper presentations by teachers and researchers - Georgeta Moarcăs, Alex Goldiș, Ruxandra Ivăncescu, Ioana Zenaida Rotariu, Camelia Teodora Bunea, Robert Elekes, Ștefan Baghiu — which took place in the familiar space of the Multicultural Center of the University.

While analysed from different perspectives, the works of the two authors present seemed to be related due to a common ground: the noncompliance of the poetic imaginary to the existing rigour and literary currents encountered in the writings of Nichita Danilov, and the freedom to seduce and to be seduced by the world and objects inspired by every page of Nora Iuga's reading. Danilov himself portrays himself as a man of the sea, loving that life and that freedom, while Nora Iuga is a the woman of the world, of the type of performance in which you create an alter ego without naming it with the sole purpose of taking over its fictional role, sometimes transiting even the area of reality.



A successful edition revolving around limitations and self-limitations of marginality and authenticity, but especially melting distances bringing together diverse connections and affinities, just as it has emerged from the joining of the two authors, but also from the works of the participants.

Ioana Zenaida ROTARIU
PhD student, Faculty of Letters

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HISTORY. MEMORY. ORALITY

THE SECOND EDITION OF THE "HL" EVENT ABOUT WAR MEMORIES

On 15 May, the second edition of the event *Human Library History. Memory. Orality. Testimonies of the Second World War* took place at our university.



Within the project Europe for Citizens *ACT-ACTive Telling, ACTive Learning*, in which our university is a partner alongside cultural and educational institutions from Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, and Poland, the event afforded our students the opportunity to meet Professor Maria Leluțiu, engineer Radu Bellu and plastic artist Mircea Vladimir Bârsan (Vova).



The speakers (live books) shared their experience and memories about the effects of the war on civilians, about the bombings of Bucharest and Ploiești, about the Second Vienna Award and the political consequences of the war for Romania. The audience's impressions show that the event served successfully the aim of the project: making young people aware of the history of contemporary Europe, with its trials and challenges.



Lecturer Dr Daniela SOREA, ACT Responsible
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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THE UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY RACE

For the second year running, the University Cross-Country Race was part of Braşov International Marathon, an important sports event in our city's sports life. The line-up consisted of 450 participants representatives of the 18 faculties of Transilvania University of Braşov, but also several teachers and members of the administrative staff.



The race was 2.5 km long, all the participants received the competition kit free of charge, and the university offered additional prizes to the winners in all the categories of participants: women, men, faculty staff and administrative staff.



Several students from the Kinetotherapy and Special Motor Skills study program of the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports ensured the recovery of the participants in the competition races (10, 21 and 42 km) through massages, and were considered by most beneficiaries as some of the most efficient volunteers in this type of race in the country.



Lecturer Dr Bogdan OANCEA, Vice-dean
Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports

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THE GRADUATES' CHALLENGE

In keeping with its yearly tradition, the graduates of the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports challenged their teachers in sports competitions. The ingredients of the basketball, handball, volleyball or football matches were, as always, cheerfulness, fun, smiles and total fair play, combined to create unforgettable memories.

If for most students the competitions were an occasion to train, teachers felt the effects of the

effort well after the end of the matches, with prizes including, in a comical note, the "heaviest teacher", the "most epic fall" or the "competition gaffe".

Worth mentioning is the fact that the sports halls were filled by the first and second year students in the audience, who are looking forward to facing their teachers in sports competitions next year.



Lecturer Dr Bogdan OANCEA, Vice-dean
Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports

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DARK BLUE – ALBUM LAUNCH

On 15 May, the popular pianist Lucian Ban returned to the Multicultural Center of the Transilvania University from Braşov, this time around with the American saxophonist Alex Harding, to wrap up the third season of Chamber Jazz with the release of a new album, entitled Dark Blue.



What a beautiful dialogue between piano and saxophone we listened throughout the entire concert! A special experience, where the melodic ideas of the two artists coexisted in soothing harmonies, even provocative at times, creating a melancholy atmosphere, strongly nuanced and enhanced by the influences of blues music.

With this new project, Lucian Ban and Alex Harding created a fascinating album, which never ceases to amaze. There is an air of freedom in each composition and note addressed, so that the music always remains fresh and alive, maybe even palpable, as the artists explore, deepen into their performance, communicate with each other and with their audience.

In *Dark Blue*, of course, we also find solo compositions such as *Lowcountry Blue*, performed by Lucian Ban with an undeniable sensitivity and elegance, or *H.B.*, expressively played by Alex Harding in the memory of saxophonist Hamiet

Bluiett. All these prepare us for the explosive encounter between the two instruments, meeting which brings to life this duo of improvised chamber jazz. The friendship and close connection between Ban and Harding were easily noticeable from the beginning to the end of the event. Thus, we took part in a musical experience in which respect and silence act as a natural counterpoint, perfectly dosed from one piece to another.

The two musicians managed to create, during this concert, an alternative space and time, against the rhythms of *Tough Love* and *Not That Kind Of Blues*, somewhere in the heart of New York, where jazz is the language spoken.



Thus ends this season of Chamber Jazz, an unforgettable cultural and musical journey. All we can do is replay the artists' songs nostalgically over the summer, think about the stories shared at end of each concert and look forward to the next season.

Alexandra ROTARIU
Student, Faculty of Letters

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CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL. BOJAN MARTINOVIC (PIANO) - VUJADIN KRIVOKAPIV (VIOLIN) - MONTENEGRO

On 15 May music buffs had the opportunity to listen to chamber music as part of the Concert Season organized by the Music Centre at Transilvania University of Braşov. The protagonists of the concert were the pianist Bojan Martinovic and the violinist Vujadin Krivokapic, a well-known duo of chamber music from Montenegro.



A graduate of the Music Academy of Montenegro, the pianist Bojan Martinović, who continued his studies in Vienna, is the laureate of many national and international competitions. In 2010, he received the highest distinction from the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Montenegro. The violinist Vujadin Krivokapic is a graduate of the Music Academy of Belgrade and was the recipient of a scholarship at *Faculté de Musique* - University of Montréal – Canada. He was awarded numerous international distinctions and is known for his interpretation of works by both classical and

contemporary composers, actively promoting the music of the 20th and 21st centuries.



The program of the recital included *Sonata for piano and violin in A minor* by Maurice Ravel, *Largo* by Senad Gačević and *Sonata for violin and piano no. 2 op 121* by Robert Schumann. The audience witnessed a moment of virtuosity, because the interpretation of Ravel's Sonata showcased the impressive technique of the two musicians, their unique sensitivity and impeccable mastery. The emotional work by contemporary composer Gačević subtly highlighted a range of modern musical harmonies in the interpretation of the two soloists. Energetic, vibrant, positive, Schumann's *Sonata for violin and piano no. 2* was performed with enviable stylistic accuracy, which rendered all of its musical and emotional richness.

The recital turned out to be a success due to the quality of the musicians' interpretative skills, their sensitivity and technical accomplishments.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate
Music Centre Expert

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PIANO RECITAL BY JIN HANWEN, HUANG XIANG, ZHU HAO and SUN JUN THE ZHEJIANG CONSERVATORY - CHINA

On 27 May, the Concert Season organized by the Music Centre at Transilvania University of Braşov continued with the recital of pianists from the *Zhejiang* Conservatory in China. The musicians have won numerous national and international interpretation contests; they have successful careers and are well known on the world's great stages. The concert had a complex program including a range of composers from Bach to Bartok and Liszt, from He Lu-Ting to Chopin.



The recital began with Jin Hanwen's interpretation of *Partita no. 1* by Johann Sebastian Bach and *The Herdboy's Flute* by He Lu-Ting. Then, Huang Xiang performed the *French Suite no. 5* by Johann Sebastian Bach, the *Improvisations on Hungarian Peasant Songs op. 20* by Béla Bartok and *Transcendental Etude no. 8* by F. Liszt, followed by Zhu Hao and Sun Jun with *Prelude op. 28 no. 1-24* by Frédéric Chopin.



The pianists displayed versatility in performing these subtle compositions, full of energy or sensitivity, and very challenging from a technical point of view.



Although there is always a risk in approaching such a wide range of compositions, the performance of the Chinese pianists was very convincing. The way in which the music pieces were interpreted, the attention paid to nuances, thematic polyphonies or ornamental passages allowed the audience to grasp the quality of the performance. The rhythm of the dynamic ascent, the poetic calm of the melodic lines, the continuous or contrasting sequences, with different accompaniments, the variety of emotions and states were very well received by the audience.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate
Music Centre Expert

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